## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording medium including a first underlying film formed on a nonmagnetic substrate and containing a NiTa alloy having a nonmagnetic amorphous structure, and a second underlying film using an alloy containing at least Cr and Ti, further a first magnetic film using a CoCrPt alloy, a nonmagnetic intermediate film containing Ru and a second magnetic film using a CoCrPtB alloy that are serially formed over said first underlying layer, wherein oxygen exists in an interface between said first underlying film; and

wherein a film thickness of said second underlying film is 5 nm to 15 nm, and a half value width of a locking curve in a (11.0) diffraction peak appearing at an overlapping position of said first and second magnetic films is equal to or less than 8°.

- 2. (Previously Presented) A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said oxygen is locally dispersed in said interface.
- 3. (Previously Presented) A magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein a Ti concentration of said second underlying film is 10at% to 15at%, and a Pt concentration of the CoCrPt alloy as said first magnetic film is 3at% to 8at%.

## 4. Canceled

5. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a magnetic recording medium, comprising the steps of:

forming a first underlying film formed of a NiTa alloy having a nonmagnetic amorphous structure on a nonmagnetic substrate;

exposing said first underlying film to an oxygen atmosphere wherein a product of an oxygen partial pressure and an exposure time to said oxygen atmosphere from said step of forming said first underlying film to a step of forming a second underlying film is 15 (mPa·sec) to 35 (mPa·sec);

forming said second underlying film formed of an alloy containing at least Cr and Ti on said first underlying film, wherein a Ti concentration of said second underlying film is 10at% to 15at%; and

forming serially a first magnetic film formed of a CoCrPt alloy having a Pt concentration of 3at% to 8at%, a nonmagnetic intermediate film containing Ru and a second magnetic film formed of a CoCrPtB alloy, over said second underlying film.

6. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a magnetic recording medium, comprising the steps of:

forming a first underlying film formed of a NiTa alloy having a nonmagnetic amorphous structure on a nonmagnetic substrate;

exposing said first underlying film to an oxygen atmosphere wherein a product of an oxygen pressure and an exposure time to said oxygen atmosphere from said step of forming said first underlying film to a step of forming a second underlying film is 20 (mPa·sec) to 40 (mPa·sec);

forming said second underlying film formed of an alloy containing at least Cr, Ti and B on said first underlying film, wherein a Ti concentration of said second underlying film is 10at% to 15at%; and

forming serially a first magnetic film formed of a CoCrPt alloy having a Pt concentration of 3at% to 8at%, a nonmagnetic intermediate film containing Ru and a second magnetic film formed of a CoCrPtB alloy, over said second underlying film.

The formal remarks have been submitted with the Reply that was filed on December 3, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene W. Stackman

Registration No. 21,021 Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR 1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

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